Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment

Mission

To prevent the abuse of illegal and addictive substances through a coordinated process of prevention, education, treatment, and law enforcement.

Summary of Activities

Substance abuse prevention activities are coordinated by the **Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana**, which works with local coordinating groups in each county to address identified substance abuse problems in their communities. Indiana's substance abuse prevention efforts are summarized as follows:

Education and Prevention: The **Department of Education** (DOE) distributes federal funds to public and non-public schools that provide drug prevention education and early intervention services to students. The **Family and Social Services Administration** (FSSA), Division of Mental Health implements a targeted prevention program that serves over 14,000 children per year in afterschool programs in every county in the state. The **Indiana State Department of Health** (ISDH) administers programs designed to prevent substance abuse by pregnant women and persons infected with HIV / AIDS.



<u>Treatment:</u> The Division of Mental Health's addiction treatment programs serve more than 19,000 people per year through a system of managed care providers who are under contract to provide a continuum of treatment services. Services are targeted to individuals and situations where the impact of the addictions



Indiana State Police

has the most negative consequences. This includes treatment services to the chronically addicted, and addicted women with dependent children. The **Health Professions Bureau** administers programs that provide treatment to impaired nurses and impaired pharmacists.

The **Department of Correction** also provides substance abuse treatment to its offenders, 85% of which have a significant history of substance abuse. In 1999, over 65,000 hours of direct clinical treatment were provided, and over 3,000 offenders successfully completed programs.

<u>Law Enforcement</u>: The **Indiana State Police** assists in substance abuse prevention through two enforcement initiatives: marijuana eradication and drug interdiction. Marijuana eradication is federally funded and is supported by the State Police air division, which in

1999 flew 1,502 hours of patrol, locating 1,041 cultivated outdoor marijuana plots, resulting in the eradication of 22,336 plants and the arrest of 109 individuals. Drug interdiction efforts resulted in 4,349 criminal charges in 1999. Detectives purchased or seized 2,440 pounds of marijuana, 56.1 pounds of cocaine, and 98,390 dosage units of various other controlled substances. The **Criminal Justice Institute** administers a series of federal drug and narcotics control grant programs, while the **Prosecuting Attorney's Council** provides training and assistance to local law enforcement officials in prosecuting drug crimes.

External Factors

The most prominent external factor affecting substance abuse prevention is the changing nature of the illegal use of controlled substances. For example, many Midwestern states have recently experienced a dramatic increase in the use of

methamphetamine, an inexpensive and highly addictive drug that can be manufactured in small quantities using common household chemicals. In 1998, forty-three clandestine labs were eradicated. That number rose to 128 in 1999, and is expected to rise to over 300 in 2000. This phenomenon strains the resources available for both law enforcement and treatment. It also requires the adoption of new or revised prevention and education strategies.

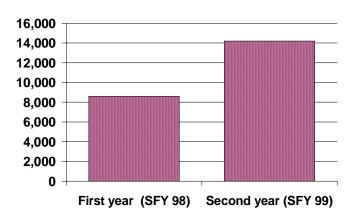
Evaluation and Accomplishments

The incidence of substance abuse among Hoosiers is the primary factor to consider in evaluating the success of Indiana's substance abuse prevention programs. Many signs are encouraging. The Indiana University Prevention Resource Center

reports that the use of marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco among students in grades 6 through 12 has declined for three consecutive years. Use of inhalants by 8th graders dropped almost by half from 1997 to 2000. The rate of decline in marijuana use has exceeded the national average, suggesting that Indiana's state-specific prevention efforts are effective.

Progress has been most significant at the middle school level, following Governor O'Bannon's decision in 1997 to redirect resources toward those students, based on research indicating that early drug experimentation often begins at that grade level. As a result, the decline in drug use since 1997 among middle school students has been twice that of other grades.

Children Served in After School Addictions Prevention Program



Plans for the Biennium

The Division of Mental Health will be implementing a new consumer education program, while enhancing its addictions prevention data collection system, and implementing tobacco enforcement and tobacco vendor education programs designed to decrease the sale of tobacco to youth under the age of 18.

